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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

REPORT NO.

# INFORMATION REPORT

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SUBJECT Meeting of Beirut District Committee of the  
Lebanese Communist Party 25X1A2g  
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### GRADING OF SOURCE

COLLECTOR'S PRELIMINARY GRADING OF CONTENT

1. The Beirut District Committee met on 16 November at the request of the Central Committee of the Lebanese Communist Party. The meeting took place at the home of George Furayhah in Beirut, and Mustafa 'Aris presided. The Committee agreed to take the following measures:

### a. General Typesetters' Strike

1. In connection with the proclamation of a typesetters' strike in demand of the release of the Union's Secretary, Hanna Zarqa, and other internees, it was decided to call the three communist typesetters' groups to a general meeting on 28 November. Jean Nimr, typesetter at the Jesuit printing press, was to send out the invitations to this meeting.
2. The Committee decided, also, to contact the typesetters who opposed the Ittihad Niquabat al-'Ummal (Federation of Unions) and persuade them to cooperate with the Union, as it was felt that no strike could possibly succeed without the participation of the typesetters of al-'Amal, al-Hadith, al-Bayraq, al-Zaman, and al-Ruwad newspapers. Certain typesetters, friends of Tawfiq Faghali, head of the non-communist typesetters' union, were appointed to try to persuade Faghali to participate in the strike.

b. Campaign against Jami'at al-'Ummal (League of Labor Unions)

1. It was decided to publish protests in the newspapers and to send telegrams to the Chairman of the UNESCO Conference, insisting that Mustafa 'Aris, as a member of the World Federation of Trade Unions, be permitted to carry out his assignment as official representative of the workers of the Middle East at the UNESCO Conference. If he were not permitted to represent the workers in an official capacity, a request would be made that he be allowed to act as the workers' honorary representative.

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2. The Committee agreed to send a delegation of workers representing all the trades to visit government officials at the Serail, to protest against the activities of Jami'at al-'Ummal (trade union association recognized by the Lebanese Government), as that organization was not truly representative of workers. This delegation would also discuss the case of Mustafa 'Aris.

c. General Conference of Typesetters

The Beirut District Committee made provisions for a general conference of typesetters to be held in order to unite that group, since the opposition, under the impulse of non-labor elements, was disrupting communist control of the Typesetters' Union. Mustafa 'Aris was entrusted with the task of uniting all the typesetters, and of reporting the results of his efforts to the Council of the Typesetters' Union.

d. The Bakers' Union

The conferees accused Khalil Khuri, President Bisharah Khuri's son, of waging a campaign against Mustafa 'Aris' Ittihad Niquabat al-'Ummal, and of inducing various unions to join Jami'at al-'Ummal. They blamed Khuri for persuading Adib Ibrahim, head of the Bakers' Union, to leave the Ittihad in order to join the Jami'at al-'Ummal. It was decided to instruct Muhammad Ma'tuq, Treasurer of the Bakers' Union and its leading representative of the Communist Party, to introduce reforms in that union which would dissolve its present council and elect a new one friendly to the Communist Party, and thus influence the Bakers' Union to rejoin the Ittihad Niquabat al-'Ummal.

e. Unemployment of Communist workers

The Beirut District Committee of the Communist Party has reported a campaign in progress whereby Communist workers are being dismissed from their jobs, even though there is no excuse for terminating their services. Unemployed communist workers are finding it very difficult to get jobs if they are known to be Communists, and are living in extreme poverty. It was therefore decided to try to find employment for these workers through the Communist Party's influential and militant members.

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